

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 03433 261455 Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 261425 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WAS HMC 3371

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 3433

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO FROM AMBASSADOR

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, IR, IN

SUBJ: DEPSEC RUSH VISIT TO SOUTH ASIA

REF: STATE 054134

1. I HAPPENED TO BE PAYING MY COURTESY CALL TODAY ON MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SURENDRA PAL SINGH, AND TOOK THE OCCASION TO RAISE WITH HIM THE MATTER OF A VISIT FROM DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH AND YOURSELF. HE COULD SCARCELY HAVE BEEN MORE CORDIAL. HE DID NOT KNOW FOR CERTAIN THAT THE PERSONS WE WOULD WISH TO SEE - I MENTIONED THE PRIME MINISTER, THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, THE FINANCE MINISTER - WOULD BE AVAILABLE ON THAT DATE, BUT HE THOUGHT IT NOT UNLIKELY. MAKING NO COMMITMENTS EITHER WAY -- I STRESSED THAT OUR DATES COULD SLIP A DAY OR TWO IN EITHER DIRECTION -- WE AGREED EN PRINCIPE THAT SUCH A VISIT WOULD BE A SPLENDID IDEA.

2. I HAVE BEEN HAMMERING AWAY AT THIS BUSINESS OF KEEPING ONE ANOTHER ABREAST OF OUR RESPECTIVE VIEWPOINTS AND PLANS. THIS WILL BE A CHANCE TO DO JUST THIS. I WOULD HOPE FOR A FAIRLY EXTENSIVE EXCHANGE.

3. I HAVE NO IDEA WHETHER THE PRIME MINISTER WILL BE AROUND ON APRIL 27. DO YOU REGARD A CALL ON HER AS CRUCIAL?

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4. I WILL PLAN TO GIVE YOU AN EASY AND RELAXED SUPPER ON THURSDAY NIGHT WHEN YOU ARRIVE. (WHEN THE TIME COMES LET ME KNOW WHO YOU WOULD LIKE INCLUDED FROM YOUR TRAVELLING COMPANIONS.) I EXPECT THE INDIANS WILL WANT TO GIVE YOU LUNCH THE NEXT DAY. IT WILL THEN BE MY TURN TO LAY ON A SPLENDIFEROUS DINNER, BUT NOT SO LARGE AS TO PRECLUDE THE DEPUTY SECRETARY TALKING WITH EACH OF THE GUESTS, WHO WILL BE OF UNUSUAL DISTINCTION EVEN FOR THIS WORLD CAPITAL.

5. THE WEATHER WILL BE AWFUL. BEST.
MOYNIHAN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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